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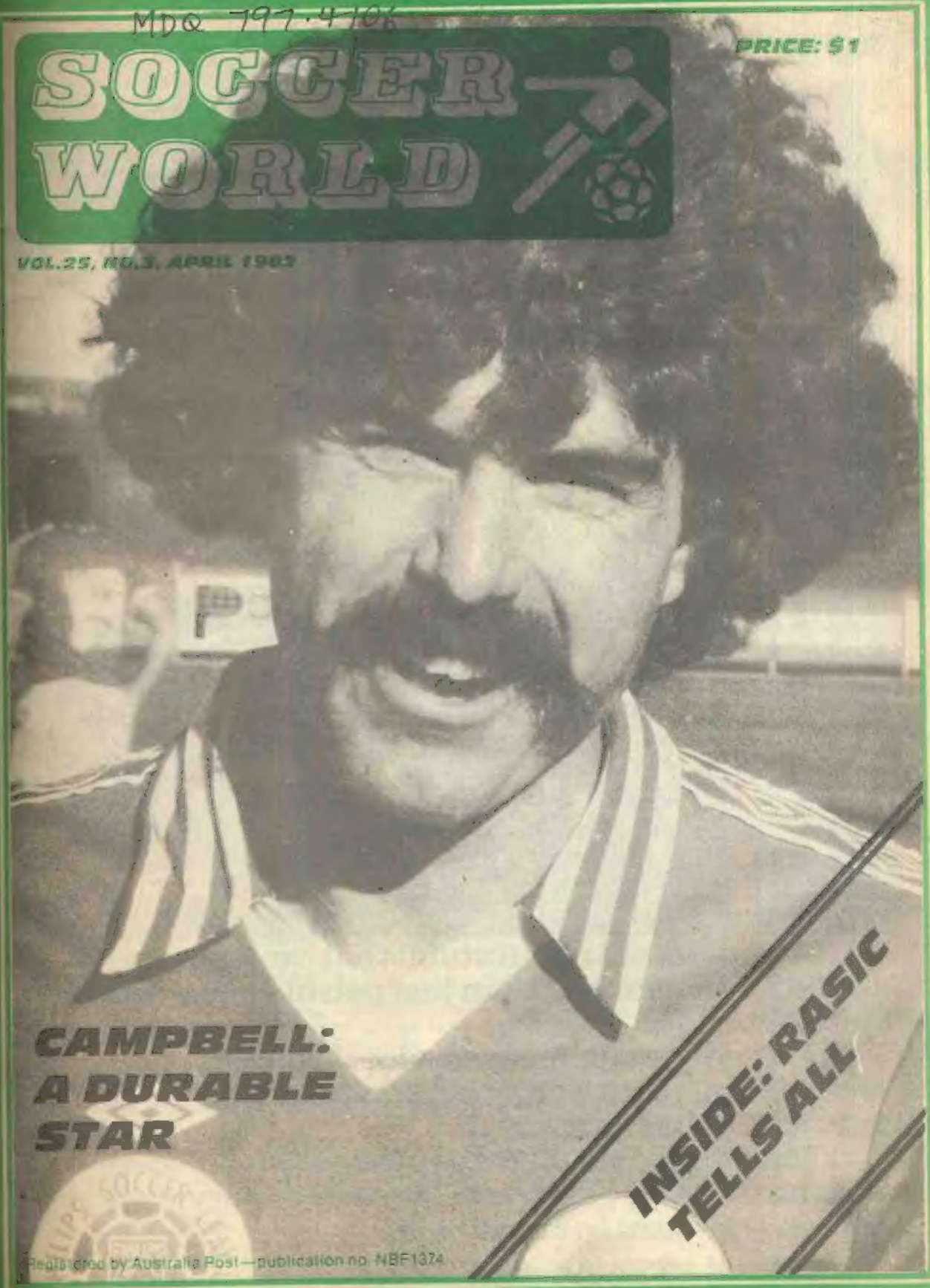

CAMPBELL: A DURABLE STAR

INSIDE: RASIC TELLS ALL

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Most of us, mere mortals, have been wondering for years one of the perplexing riddles of soccer: how is it possible that brilliant and successful business tycoons can run our clubs in such appallingly amateurish fashion?

Why do they tolerate shoddy managements, confused planning and irrational fiscal policies which often lead to staggering deficits?

I feel the explanation is fairly simple. Many club leaders are spending somebody else's money, not their own. And that—people who have been lucky to try it tell me—is the purest pleasure in life.

A club's revenue is usually derived from three major sources: membership, gate takings and sponsors. It's not the presidents and the committees who actually dig deep in their own pockets—it's others. Maybe there are exceptions to the rule but this is how the system really works in Sydney.

What about the 'little bloke' whose cash goes down the drain? A classic joke may help explain clubs' attitude to this 'bloke.'

A famous racehorse, the target of many enormous bids, sudddenly becomes lame. Its owner, until then reluctant to sell him, announces a giant raffle: the horse can be won for a mere $1.

A million tickets are sold, the draw is made and the lucky winner is escorted to the stables.

He looks at the motionless horse sprawling on the floor and exclaims: "But this horse is dead!"

"OK, he's dead," says the owner, "here's your dollar back."

"My dollar? What about the others?"

"What others? Did they win?"

Well, what about the 'others?' In most clubs they don't know how the funds are spent—and they don't care. After all, their contribution, broken up into individual lots, is relatively low. A few dollars a year. So why make a fuss?

But when it's the few bucks of thousands of people, the matter becomes serious—even fatal.

Much the same is happening with many sponsors who are seldom totally au fait with the club's monetary policies. They are told how their name and product would be publicised; that's it. They are either happy with that or they aren't. But they no more probe into club managements than do the ordinary members.

All this may sound too simplistic and generalised. Perhaps it is: the essence is true even if there are some honorable exceptions to the rule.

The real tragedy is that many executives pay only scant and spasmodic attention to their club affairs. They are usually very busy people for whom soccer is just a hobby. They COULD run the clubs better—but choose not to because of other interests. And because it's public property.

In their own businesses they are much more careful. That's for real where normal business principles and methods apply.

But not in soccer. Because here—please deny it, if you wish—they are spending the money of a larger community, not their family's or company's. And communities are faceless, nameless and often invisible people seldom questioning the rights of their own executives.

The only logical solution to this structural impasse is to form companies or corporations to run soccer clubs.

This is what they do in Britain and the USA.

Either a wealthy soccer nut, a sort of Elton John or a group of people put up the money to run a team with an unashamedly profit motive. They invest in soccer like they invest in real estate, dry figs or space research. If they succeed, they get their money back; if they fail, they lose it. But they won't lose somebody else's money.

I think this would be an infinitely more honest way to run clubs than the present one where an elected executive's only possible punishment for mistakes is a simple replacement by another executive and then yet another.

It would also help bring sanity into club finances. Owners would think twice before granting unwarranted and unjustifiable privileges to coaches and players, as they do today, knowing full well in advance that the money will go down the drain.

There is a lot of talk about limiting transfer fees and curbing salaries and bonuses or least bringing them closer to the level of incomes.

This will be achieved only if those who invest in a club heavily rationalise their expenditure; they look after their pennies because it's theirs.

It's quite possible that under such a system—if it were ever tried—today's crazy soccer-inflation would be halted. Executives, knowing that it's their money at stake, would be less willing to cheerfully budget for losses of $200,000 and more.

The players would realise, possibly for the first time, that they have to attract paying customers to the matches—or face pay cuts.

Fulltime coaches would begin to restlessly find ways of earning their keep rather than sit at home bored or strut around the golf links.

Soccer, on the whole, would become more honest, more realistic and more business-like.

This is how all other forms of the entertainment business are conducted. And surely nobody wants to deny that soccer, at top level, is much closer to showbiz than to healthy recreation, physical education or even old fashioned sport?

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Editor: Andrew Dettre.

FROM THE PRESS BOX

It's quite admirable when, on the same newspaper, two journalists can express totally different views on the same subject.

'Soccer Weekly' recently gave a splendid illustration of this editorial freedom. In the March 9 issue, in an editorial—presumably by the editor, David Jack—we read a fairly bitter outburst against some enterprises by PSL clubs. Excerpts on a touchy subject:

'Soccer is getting publicised to some degree on TV in Sydney. But it always has been—and it didn't cost the clubs a cent. The main difference now is that one segment has been renamed Philips Top Soccer. Which presumably means the State League has been frozen out. PSL clubs may regard this as a step forward but people interested in other competitions will take the opposite view."

The following week, in the same newspaper, Mike Mystikiadis plainly disagreed with his editor. He wrote:

"I can't understand why it's wrong for the PSL to be mentioned on TV and it is not wrong for the State League to advertise their games every weekend in the papers..."

Then Mike went a big step further. He not only disagreed with his editor but also decided to lecture him and even hint at some dark secrets. He added:

"The important question which comes from this confrontation is why the PSL promotion on TV touches so greatly sensitive chords.

"You may find someone to answer this question among those who are crying over the uneven publicity given to the two competitions. But don't trust them because their tears for soccer are the tears of a crocodile..."

—Andrew Dettre

Tommy Docherty hits out at soccer madness...

TOMMY Docherty's 17 games in charge at Preston North End cost the club close on £2,000 a match. It is that sort of madness that is ruining the game.

Who says so? Docherty himself, who has been unemployed since the turn of the year when he was abruptly sacked by the Third Division club.

"Preston paid Sydney Olympic, the Australian club I was managing, £32,000 for my release," says Docherty.

"They wanted to see a dramatic improvement at a club that had been going to the wall for years. I couldn't produce it overnight, so they sacked me.

"What they failed to understand is that it takes time to turn a club round. I believe they acted irresponsibly. It wasn't their money that they were throwing around. It's the supporters' money and they have a right to demand better than that.

"I can't see that any group of people have the right to act as they did.

"That's why the game is in the mess that it is. Look at the trouble Bristol City are in, Darlington too, and there's many more like them.

"Who agrees to million pound transfers? The directors of football clubs. The very same people who are demanding that it has got to stop.

"I was with the chairman of a First Division club recently, who I like a lot, and he holds his hands up and admits that they should be held responsible for starting it all. It must stop, or the game as we know it will die."

Docherty is talking with the genuine interests of the game at heart. He is not bitter because of Preston's decision to sack him.

He also believes that clubs must start playing attractive football again, otherwise attendances will continue to fall. He points to West Ham as the perfect example of a club who refuse to let their standards slip.

"I'd walk a thousand miles to see West Ham play," he says. "They're producing the sort of football that people want.

"Look at their gates. At a time when most clubs are losing support the gates at Upton Park remain steady. And they did during their time in the Second Division as well.

"I would class Ipswich, Tottenham and Luton Town in the same bracket.

"I must admit that I haven't seen too much football since I've been out of work, but what I have seen hasn't impressed me much.

"To be honest, I haven't any real desire to get back into the game. That is the thing that worries me most. There was a time when I couldn't ever see that happening."

Docherty has not been short of job offers in the past two months.

"I could go back to Australia tomorrow," he says. "I've also had good offers in Norway and America, but at the present time I'm not interested.

"I'm not desperate. If the right offer came along then I would consider it, but I'm not sure what the future holds for me."

Docherty has seen his fair share of controversy during a colourful career. When the game is so short of characters it is almost a tragedy that the abrasive Scot is on the outside.

During his short term in charge at Deepdale, Docherty hardly pulled up any trees, but he could not be looked upon as a failure.

"The job of making Preston proud again is going to be a long, arduous one," says Docherty. "It is not something that is going to be done in 24 hours.

"Their decision to sack me came right out of the blue. It was more of a surprise than when Manchester United showed me the door.

"The only inkling I had was when I spoke about cutting down on the scouting staff to the Secretary Ron Severs.

"He told me not to be too hasty. Two or three days later I was on my way out.

"I left them nicely in the black, though. I sold Mick Baxter to Middlesbrough for £325,000 and although I bought a few players, I only spent £100,000.

'Promises'

"I suppose what annoyed me most was that they were so full of promises but they lacked ambition."

Docherty may be at the stage in life when he is taking stock, but few things are more certain in football than that he will be back.

He is keeping in touch with the game, watching as many games as he can, but he is restricted by a Saturday lunchtime programme on Manchester's Piccadilly Radio.

Hopefully, it won't be too long before this likeable character bounces back so that we can all share what he has to contribute once again.

Ipswich and Luton (above) are two of the teams Docherty believes are worth watching.

This feature is reproduced from the excellent London weekly "Shoot," copies of which are available at major newsagents in Australia.

THREE STATE LEAGUE CLUBS MAKE NSW LAST 8

Ampol Cup results on Page 13—NSW boss fuming on Cup 'insult'—page 7.

Group A

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Marconi	3	1	0	12	4	7
Blacktown	3	0	1	9	4	6
Canterbury	2	0	2	6	5	4
Riverwood	1	1	2	5	8	3
Yugal	0	0	4	1	12	0

Group B

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Wollong.	3	1	0	13	1	7
Leichhardt	2	2	0	10	4	6
Manly	1	1	2	4	8	3
Pelonia	1	0	3	3	7	2
Bankstown	1	0	3	5	15	2

Group C

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Croatia	3	0	1	4	1	6
St.George	2	1	1	4	3	5
Sydney City	2	1	1	4	3	5
JM United	1	1	2	3	3	3
Auburn	0	1	3	1	6	1

Group D

	W	D	L	F	A	P
Melita	3	1	0	10	6	7
Olympic	3	0	1	10	4	6
Avala	2	0	2	6	7	4
Sutherland	0	2	2	5	7	2
Rochdale	0	1	3	3	10	1

Soccer Terms explained: No. 7

A "Free".

Meaning "free kick"—a place kick awarded following an infringement by an opposing player. Depending on the seriousness of the offence, the kick may be either "direct", from which a goal may be scored directly, or "indirect", from which a goal cannot be scored until the ball has been touched by a player other than the kicker.

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SD 7 61

Manly's Chris Cassettari

Nobody else makes a boot with all these features. They haven't got the hide.

We know that our 1982 World Star is the best football boot we ever put on the market.

And we also know that nobody else has the hide to make that claim.

Why?

Because, for the first time, someone has gone to the trouble of using three different kinds of hide or leather to give you a truly superior football boot.

Not only that. We also believe that, feature for feature, it's the best value-for-money boot around.

Mooh! Baaaah! Oink! Oink!

There are many materials that you can use to make a football boot.

The thing that our competitors seem to disregard is that different parts of the boot have different functions to perform.

Some areas should be highly resilient, and tough. Others should be softer, for greater comfort.

Ours is the only boot to combine three types of leather in the upper.

Goatskin quarters and vamp lining for lightness and flexibility. The vamp and eyelet stays are made from cowhide as is the back counter, to ensure maximum strength and durability, while the new leather tongue with its higher padding is made from soft, supple pigskin.

The insole is also leather for tremendous flexibility and moisture absorption.

The fable of the high-priced football boot.

Why is it that people seem to think that if you want the best, you have to pay the most? It's simply not true, and we should know, because we handle boots from all over the world.

Being shoe and boot manufacturers, we're obviously business orientated.

So we keep a close eye on what our competitors are doing. That's why we can say we believe that our 1982 World Star boots *are* the best.

And better value for money.

More features to boot.

Our duo-density nylon outsole is imported from Germany. The studs, also German, are FIFA approved and made from two bonded nylon elements, while the stud anchors have been sensibly made from non-corrosive materials.

Additionally, there is an EVA sponge sock with added arch support. It evolves from experience we gained making the KT26 running shoe to provide better shock absorbing characteristics. The famous Dunlop side flash – which is designed to reinforce the upper – is iridescent and soil-resistant.

World Star -in name and quality.

You might have gained the opinion that we have a somewhat fanatical dedication when it comes to the making of high-class football boots. You're right.

Take, for example, another of our new boots – the Midfield. Similar to the World Star, it actually combines four different leathers and features a moulded sole for harder grounds.

Yet these are only two from the 1982 range of Dunlop football boots starting from about $13. With Dunlop, you not only get the highest standards in bootmaking and design you also get – as we've said before – more boot for less loot.

DUNLOP

Leo Burnett 4.3643

RODNY SLAMS CUP—WRECKING PSL CLUBS

—By Paul James

TRADITION—STARVED Australian soccer has only one regular, constant competition on its calendar—the Ampol Cup, for many years the prelude to the season not just in NSW but also in other States.

With almost all other cups and competitions, officialdom's whim has often played havoc. If something doesn't work out in the first two or three years, it's dropped.

The Federation Cup, the Australia Cup, the Interstate series and more recently the Philips Top Four and Philips Cup have all suffered from this treatment. They were promoted as the answers to our prayer—then suddenly, mysteriously and often without any explanation, chucked away.

God only knows what would have happened to the World Cup if it had been started by Australian officials...Remember, only 13 nations entered the first World Cup in 1930 in faraway Uruguay, the others showed little interest. Today, of course, the World Cup is the biggest single sporting event, on par with the Olympics.

Of Australia's competitions, only the Ampol Cup has been held each and every year since it was started in 1958. And yet, this grand old lady of our soccer has been rather badly treated in NSW this year, pushed unceremoniously into the background by most of the PSL clubs and the State League as well whose idea of promotion is to hang up a limp, worn Ampol banner at some grounds, thus creating a 'festive atmosphere.'

Ampol, for long soccer's most reliable supporters, are known to view the relegation of the Cup in importance in a dim light even though a company spokesman was non-committal when asked about their attitude to the publicity and treatment of the Cup this year.

The spokesman said it would be better to wait until after the series before making an overall judgment.

"You never know; there could be a sudden burst of interest in the quarterfinals and semifinals," he said. The spokesman would not comment on whether Ampol were happy or not with the Cup format and with the fact that the Cup has lost its traditional pre-season format.

The NSW Federation president Karl Rodny was less reticent to put his views forward on what he described as a 'disgrace to one of the game's finest sponsors.'

Karl Rodny

'AMPOL WILL STAY ON IN NSW'

Aulden Brown

AMPOL

Rodny is known as a fierce critic of the PSL administration. He says the PSL concept in itself is good but the administrators and officials running the League tend to become elitist.

"What happened in NSW this year is a disgrace," he said. "We will never let it happen again. I won't, anyway. The Ampol Cup was treated with contempt by some clubs and, as a result, the series became a botch."

Karl Rodny said he blamed the PSL clubs not only for the poor planning of the Cup but also for the great deal of bad publicity the Cup has received during the group matches.

"The five PSL clubs knew last year what the proposed format and draw were," he said. "They had a lot of time to raise objections but waited until January. Why?"

He said the PSL clubs then approached the Federation and laid down the conditions under which they would enter the Cup.

"What they demanded was intolerable," he said. "They didn't want to play on Friday evenings because that would clash with the weekend PSL program. But they had known about the Ampol Cup dates long before the PSL schedule was even drawn up.

"It was just their desire to experiment with summer soccer that landed them and us in trouble. The PSL season started too soon."

Karl Rodny said this would have been bad enough but what made it worse was a string of comments from coaches and club officials which amounted to 'sabotage.'

"The Cup was wrecked in the daily press and also in the soccer press. It lost all credibility when people read that coaches were selecting reserve grade teams.

"Coaches were quoted that the prize money was too low and there was no interest in the Cup."

He said he knew of one PSL coach who did not even attend his team's Ampol Cup match —played by the reserves—but was training with his first squad at the same time.

Karl Rodny said in future it will be part of the Cup rules that the best possible teams had to be fielded.

"We will make it compulsory for every club to ensure that they compete with their best players and top team," he said.

Rodny countered claims that the State League was also overlapping into the Cup by saying that the 'Cup had been dragged out too long.'

"We had everything worked out nicely but the PSL caused the Ampol Cup to be rescheduled over a longer period," he said. "The State League had to be kept to its original dates because of commitments to the Soccer Pools."

Karl Rodny said he was not sure whether the Ampol Cup needed any restructuring.

"I think the clubs are happy with this format. That's not the problem. What we have to sort out is the timetable."

He said this year was the first time the PSL had not consulted with the State League secretaries about the draw for the Philips League season.

Karl Rodny said he was confident Ampol would stay on as sponsors of the Cup in the future.

"They have been extremely loyal to us and they will not give up just because a few clubs have wrecked the 1982 Cup."

ADVERTISE IN SOCCER WORLD—PHONE 406 4551 FOR DETAILS.

CLUB OFFERS SIX TO ONE FOR COACH

The president of the St. Jonas club, Axel Snodgrass, today admitted that he was worried about the likelihood of brilliant coach Frank Roka returning to his occasional home in Yugoslavia.

"What worries me most," said the president, "is not that Roka is leaving but that most of our committee is staying."

Mr. Snodgrass said he was now working on an exchange plan with Yugoslavia.

Was he hoping to exchange Roka for another coach?

"Not at all," he said. "I want to make a deal with the Yugos. We keep Roka and send them four, perhaps five of our committee. You know I like a hard bargain: I am actually aiming at six.

"One has already shown interest, after we promised to buy him a langos franchise on the Adriatic. Two others could be Snodgrass Industries reps in Montenegro where we couldn't so far crack the market through conventional methods."

The Yugoslav government has not yet given its answer. But the Yugoslav Airline is interested though it would prefer to issue return tickets to the committeemen. Mr. Snodgrass insists on one way.

Coach Roka, upon hearing about the plan, spat into the dust which turned into a small lake and produced instant trout.

"I will go home," he said firmly. "I always do. I have things to do there. Then I will come back again. And again. Perhaps in 1988, maybe later. But if Mr. Snodgrass wants me to, I will take his committee with me. The Yugoslav soccer is strong enough to survive them."

Decision later.

BIG DEAL FOR LOCAL KIDS

—By Sunny Thunderson who rings up runs around most others.

Big time will arrive for glamor club Mousetrap United if their top secret negotiations with a rich sponsor come to pass.

The matter is so hush-hush that neither the club nor the sponsor even know about it yet.

I believe the figure to be mentioned is $200,000 a month.

Last night I managed to talk to the sponsor's head office in a picturesque North Albanian hamlet.

"You are amazing, Mr. Thunderson," said Mr. Zipit, amazed. "I can see why you're No.1 soccer writer in Holt Street, third floor, room 19, desk 54." He also said:

"Wrzughihplay berwzychydor, ne?"

This is either Albanian or the phone was crackling.

I can also exclusively reveal, for the first time and uniquely, that Mousetrap United would launch a huge promotion campaign with the money.

"I don't know nothin' about the deal," said club president Egon Bilateralis. "But we already have big plans. We always do. We want to give local kids a go. That is, local kids from Glasgow, Zagreb and Saloniki. They are kids, too, aren't they?"

They sure are. Or at least they look it. Mr. Bilateralis and his hard working committee deserve every praise from true soccer lovers for their efforts to put Australia on the map.

P.S.: I have given Mousetrap United Mr. Zipit's phone number. After all, matchmaking is the least a man can do who dabbles in rings.

I have to go now, as there is an awful lot of rings I must run around the other reporters to keep up my image.

As the date of this issue falls almost on April 1, the traditional day of jest, we let our imagination run free on these two pages.

Any resemblance to persons living, dead or half-dead is just an amazing coincidence.—Editor.

TOP SOCCER OFFER

Enjoy the game at its best—in the privacy of our stadium.
No jostling, no undue noise, park in the penalty box, sit anywhere you like.
Cost: $1 to enter, $5 to leave.
All spectators invited to dressing room to hear tactical talk before game—for extra $10 they can contradict the coach, for $25 they can pick the whole team!
SOLITARY UNITED FC
Our motto: "Three is a crowd."

STRAIGHT JACKET

—By Milton Mysterioudis

It is not or hardly my sad though noble duty to defend and unharass (if that is the right word; if not pls. cross out) our president, Lord Gorge of Macquarie against nasty, uncivil and/or irresponsibly malicious and maliciously irresponsible attacks.

No, it is not.

But it fills my heart to upflowing and overflowing with untold sadness and, yes, even told sadness to think that such a great man he is (that he is/which he is, pls. check which is right) must face the indignity to and for which he is exposed and suffers in public places and also where people gather, such as soccer (yes, yes, you knockers, they do gather at times).

All the jeering and booing and catcalls and dogcalls and other calls, some very rude the other day have embarrassed Lord Gorge and me and all true lovers of power.

I am sure 102 percent of Australian fans don't know that our president is one of the most energetic and respected world leaders in the game, that Joao Havelange rings him twice a day for advice, once before brekki, that no World Cup would ever be held without him.

Why the 102 percent do not know all this rests beyond my humble understanding and logic (from logos, logike and logikos, Gr.). Maybe they think it's not true? How very silly and mean.

Would I say this only and just because my publisher asked me and was holding a match to my pay packet? Just because my living depends on it?

As Pythagoras (about 497 BC) once said: man doesn't live by bread alone.

He also needs jam.

COACH AVAILABLE

Well travelled, multi-lingual, much-sacked, makes friends slowly, enemies quickly.
Please write to Goodie Rottendorf
C/o P.O. Darkest Africa

FACELIFT FOR ROTTEN PARK PROMISED

Sydney club Parnassus United will welcome fans to a revamped Rotten Park stadium next season.

President Simon Kronsteintionis said yesterday that negotiations with Asphalt Council may result in a new and glorious era for the club.

"There will be a massive reconstruction work in the off-season," he said.

"Not one stone will be left unturned. We will manually turn them over one by one. All the rusty nails in the bench es will be polished down with Omo, then chiselled down to sea level.

"The grandstand will be enlarged to hold 260 people instead of the present 253 by not admitting obese fans or those seen eating. The windows in the pressbox will be actually cleaned to let daylight into the cells.

"We are thinking of a revolutionary plan to grow grass on the playing field instead of potholes. The Council likes the idea and said they were interested in the experiment. Grass always looks greener on all other sites.

"The Council has promised its full co-operation in this ambitious project. They have already sent their chief plumber to the ground to turn on a tap which hasn't worked since 1921.

"The old Rotten Park will be a thing of the past. We will have a new Rotten Park all cretins could be proud of," he added.

GAMES ON EVEN IF CLOUDS ON HORIZON

The secretary of the Federation, Oldie Bruin, last night refused to cancel any of the scheduled matches for next week.

"I don't rightly give a damn about the inclement weather," he said with vigor, "the show must go on."

Oldie spent the whole day yesterday at the Mt. Stromlo Observatory peering at the skies. By lunchtime he spotted a tiny cumulus over Darwin; clouds were also gathering over southern Samoa.

Understandibly, some clubs wanted to call the games off in case of rain.

A quick call from Oldie to the Dept. of Agriculture (reverse charge) brought the assurance: the drought will continue. "There has been no rain for two months, two weeks, three days and 15 hours," said a spokesperson. "Can't see any for several days."

Oldie Bruin is a man of the old school who believes that soccer players won't melt even if more than six drops of rain hit them.

It is believed that the English Football League is interested in signing Oldie Bruin to re-arrange their overcrowded fixtures.

Over the years hundreds of games have been cancelled in Britain; at times full rounds.

Now they feel that with Oldie Bruin's help they could devise a way to call off the whole season.

CANBERRA HOPES

Canberra fans are all agog with excitement: their club patron the Prime Minister may actually go and see them play.

The PM's office has told the president of Canberra City Arrows Lotto Downer Olympic that the visit was "imminent."

This means the PM will probably turn up at Bruce Stadium just before the Victorian State elections or just after the pending double dissolution of Parliament.

"He is a mad keen supporter of the club," a source close to the PM said last night.

"Two years ago he even noticed one of their results."

The spokesman then added: "You realise, of course, that he can't go to the matches every week or even every year because of his other duties. He's got a big sheep property to look after. But then the other fans don't go too often, either. Maybe they all have grazing properties."

Canberra officials are hopeful that soon the crowds will return to the luxurious Bruce.

The latest plan is to merge with the whole Public Service, the diplomatic missions, the town of Goulburn and possibly CF Barcelona.

If all these don't bring any result, the club may be forced to take drastic actions.

TALENT HUNT FOR NEW NATIONAL TEAM

National coach Franzjoseph Zuzugschein yesterday announced a vast plan to rebuild the Australian team for the 1986 World Cup finals.

'Zuzug,' as his friends call him (others call him plain Zu) said it was wrong to believe for one moment (OK, maybe just one) that Australia had no national team policy.

"True, we have no team at present and no matches scheduled until 1985," he said. "But that's only the tip of the iceberg. We have no players either.

"I regard this as a challenge. In the next two years I will travel throughout Australia back and forth to spot new talent.

"My first trip next month is to Ayres Rock and The Olgas where talent grows faster than spinifex.

"After that I plan to visit well known soccer breeding grounds such as Exmouth in Western Australia, the Oenpelli Mission in Arnhem Land, Milparinka and Tinapagee in NSW.

"It's mind-boggling how these places have been ignored so far. No wonder the Kiwis licked us last year.

"Then, if I still have time, I will also take in a few PSL matches just in case there is some talent there, too. Nothing must be overlooked."

So soccer fans can breathe easy: the Socceroos will rise again.

If not, Zuzugschein will work out an even more drastic plan and submit it to the World Cup subcommittee in their nursing home.

TARGET: ALL AUSSIES

The ASF's new promotional branch, Marketing Auxiliary Drive (known as MAD) last night revealed a great plan to attract more Australians to soccer matches.

At a special cocktail party MAD released, in a 980-page pamphlet, details to a well fed and grogged up press.

"Many attempts have been made in the past but all have failed," said MAD chairman Dik Footh. "Some people claim that Australians are just not interested.

"Our extensive research over the last two days shows why this is so.

"Between 94 and 95 percent of the fans at any given senior soccer game are ethnics but mainly migrants.

"Now we have come up with a simple answer. All those who enter a ground are naturalised on the spot. So the attendances will be 100 percent Aussie.

"There will be a caravan where they administer the oath of allegiance and hand out tea with bickies. I believe this is the quickest way to have Australians at soccer."

Mr.Footh also said that no more foreign names would be tolerated in the game. As a gesture of goodwill, he himself will add a 'c' to his first name.

"We have eliminated foreign club names and will have 100 percent Aussie crowds," he said. "The next step is to change the names of all fans, officials, referees, TV viewers, players, coaches and pressmen.

"Dom Kapetanovic will be known as Damien Captain, Sam Papasavas as Sam Peppers, Rale Rasic as Roy Rogers add Andrew Lederer as Frank Lowy.

"We don't want foreign-named players in the Socceroo team, either. Selemidis will be known as Cellarman, Yzendoorn as Doorknob, Katholos as Methodist and Giampaolo as John Polo.

"And if this still doesn't work, we will produce another extensive research program for next year. Sooner or later we will get it right."

WAIT TILL LUNA PARK HEARS THIS

—By Avid Hack, our No.1, No.2 and No.28 soccer writer—

The Socceroo days of star midfielder Zbigniew Hazudszky may well be over if the ASF gets wind of his latest ploy.

But I hope they don't. Who am I to wreck his career? (Don't say it.)

Zbig, who has already been in Australia several weeks and is the vice captain of the Socceroos, last night went to Luna Park, now jointly owned by ASF chief Lord Gorge.

With him were two fellow Socceroos, Maron Bolondpoulos and Xavier de la Cinecitta.

They took me along for the ride. They always do.

I quickly retired to the pub for a free drink or two; walking is not my forte especially if I have to use my own feet.

Zbigi and his mates later joined me. He then told me in the strictest confidence—and I had to cross myself to die—that he didn't pay for a run on the Big Dipper. Not a cent.

Naturally, I promised not to tell anyone. And I won't. I haven't said a thing to a soul.

Of course, I wasn't asked not to WRITE about it, so here goes.

The chances anybody reading this are extremely small. Hardly anyone ever does.

But still, one never knows. I just hope Zbigi won't get into trouble on my account.

Why did he have to tell me at all?

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Sumner plots Kiwis' shock

—By Allan Crisp

"I'd rather lose 2-5 having tried out a few things than go down 0-1 after sitting back and letting them come at us." So says New Zealand World Cup captain Steve Sumner when discussing the awesome task his side is facing in Spain in June (and July?).

Less than 12 months ago nobody would have contemplated the idea that the Kiwis would sweep the Oceania region before them en route to the World Cup finals. Nobody, that is, except perhaps Sumner and NZ coach John Adshead and the Dominion's 18-man squad.

The World Cup campaign is now only a painful memory for the survivors of Rudi Gutendorf's ill-prepared ragtag Socceroos But perhaps one that is likely to haunt them throughout the preliminary rounds of the finals as New Zealand does battle in the tough Group 6 in Sevilla and Malaga

For the Kiwis, it's like a fairytale.

So long in the shadows of Australia, they emerged to give soccer in this country an almighty clout and then proceeded to repeat that dosage in the second round just when the sore losers and cynics hoped they would fall flat on their collective noses

As for Sumner, Spain and the Mundial will undoubtedly become the realisation of every soccer player's dream, the culmination of intensive preparations swept forth in a tide of nervous anxiety, emotion and then ecstasy. Sumner, now captain of the West Adelaide Hawks, was an integral cog in New Zealand's successful quest for World Cup finals qualification.

Dominating midfielder in the games that really mattered, Sumner was able to find the net at the most critical times. Few will forget that last-gasp equaliser against Australia in Wellington or the vital leveller against Kuwait.

In New Zealand's record goal haul in this region, Sumner is credited with nine goals but provided 'assists' with many others to earn the plaudits of Adshead.

"It has been a fantastic effort. Even to get past Australia we thought we had been successful. But to do what no other NZ side has done before in the Middle East was just out of this world," says Sumner

The Kiwis almost lost their place in the second round and needed a 5-0 win victory against Saudi Arabia in Riyadh to force a play-off against China, in neutral Singapore

"All that talk that the Saudis threw the game was a lot of garbage," Sumner says. All that week we knew this was it. We went out there with a positive attitude because we knew that funny things can and do happen in football.

"I can still remember vividly Adshead's confident and relaxed attitude in the dressing room before the game. It was in sharp contrast to his quiet and sombre mood before the match in Kuwait.

He told us: 'If you ever deserved a chance today is the day...go out and enjoy your football '

'We knew we could do it and hoped for a couple of goals in the first half and then at least three more in the second if things worked out for us."

As it happened, New Zealand went ahead by two goals early in the game and three more followed before halftime. Then—nothing. The 5-0 remained. With 6-0 the Kiwis would have qualified for Spain but now needed a play-off against China in Singapore. And with a 2-1 win there they finally did it.

Of course, things will become much, much tougher in June for the Kiwis, drawn in a very difficult group. Imagine having to play triple world champions Brazil, the under-rated but highly organised USSR and the powerful and talented Scots, with players such as Zico, Socrates, Cerezo, Blokhin, Kipiani, Souness, Dalglish and others to face them

"It's a fantastic group and though we are rank outsiders, there is always one underdog who puts up a decent performance," says Sumner. "Why not us? If we can steal a point somewhere, it will be sensational."

Sumner will join his colleagues early June for the final preparations before going to Spain. In the meantime, the former Preston North End pro is battling to recover from a nasty ankle injury. But it would take a lot more than a mere ankle to keep Sumner out of Spain in June...

New Zealand captain Steve Sumner in a bashful mood.

—Andrew Dettre

NSW STATE LEAGUE...NSW STATE LEAGUE

MANLY defender Paul Hiscock had a bad start to the season when he broke a leg in the opening game against Polonia Club spokesman George Dick says Paul may be out of action for two months or so.

CROATIA coach Fil Bottalico (and not 'Butaticko' as it appeared in a morning daily recently) has a major headache: his entire midfield trio has been forced to stop playing because of injuries. Marijan Kovacic, John Coyne and Tom Steven have a variety of leg, groin and ankle injuries.

AVALA have signed Neil Williams from Canterbury-Marrickville. Neil was in dispute with the Berries and did not play for them this year

POLONIA mainstay Stan Lemanczyk has left the club and is now with Nepean in the NSW First Division

Greg Lynch, the BANKSTOWN club captain last year,has been forced to retire because of work commitments. His brother, Glen, is still with the team.

The bad news for CROATIA continues... Talented young fullback Alex Kovacic may miss the whole season because of a serious groin injury. He has been told to rest for up to five months.

MELITA have renewed their long-standing deal with their sponsors, Associated Midlands Insurance. The first team will get $25,000 towards expenses this season and the second graders will have their own sponsorship from Starline Motors, worth $6,000

RIVERWOOD coach Atti Abonyi is very curious to know what has happened to his player, John Lee. Attila says he last saw Lee at the end of last season and is now wondering if he is still in Sydney.

AVALA officials were relieved when Ed Ruiz returned to Sydney after a couple of months in Argentina. Club spokesman Alex Gavrilovic said that after the episode of Croatia's missing Brazilians, his club was getting anxious about seeing Ruiz again

MANLY looked like having a very serious goalkeeping problem earlier this year but those fears have now vanished. Mark Dower, who moved to live in Gosford, has decided to remain with the club and to travel for matches and training while Chris Cassettari, who was thinking of quitting to concentrate on his studies, has also decided to battle on.

Hector Martinez has returned from an extensive tour of Europe and Argentina and should be back soon in full training with Melita.

POLONIA ended the 1981 season in a poor financial state and were forced to let some of their players go. The Budini brothers, Ricky and Anito, joined Marconi and Melita respectively while Gary Noble went to Manly. Lemanczyk is now with Nepean while Solly Maitre has moved to Brisbane where he is trying out with a State League team. Strangely, nobody has heard from David Jiersa, who was also given a free transfer

AVALA have four young hopefuls in the squad training to be selected for the NSW U-19 team. The lads are brothers George and Xavier Fernandez, Goran Stamenkovic and Doug McKenzie

Sydney City's young Socceroo Brett Woods is on loan to CROATIA for the season. Croatia coach Fil Bottalico says he is hopeful that Brett will soon slot nicely in his team. Croatia have an option to buy him at the end of the year

—By Paul James

Another player who has migrated to Queensland is BANKSTOWN's Peter Rae The club has granted him, a regular first teamer last season, a free clearance.

Two new players with MANLY are Englishmen Barry Lock and Bobby Smith Barry played in the amateur Isthmian League in England before migrating to Australia. Bobby is the former Sydney City and Sutherland player who actually joined Manly on loan from Olympic.

BANKSTOWN were hard pressed for players during the off season. New coach Mike Johnson, who joined Bankstown from Wollongong United, brought with him two talented youngsters while a number of other likely lads were attracted to the club from the district. Mike has replaced as coach Bob Ferguson, who stepped down because of business commitments

MELITA's new coach for 1982 is former star Vernon Darvill. Vernon, 31, is a true sideline coach, having now officially retired from playing. His record after five games with Melita was impressive: four wins and a draw

RUMANIAN COACH

A well credentialled Rumanian coach now in Sydney is keen to throw his lot in with Australian soccer

He is Josef Pricop who arrived late last year from Bucharest

In Rumania, he was coaching such first division teams as Calarasi, Juventus Bucharest, Spartak Bucharest, Armata, Iasi and Tirgoviste

Clubs interested should contact him on (02) 305364.

BOSKOVIC SHOWS FLAG

Tony Boskovic, Australia's leading referee, has been appointed to control matches at the June-July World Cup finals in Spain

He was also refereering at the 1974 World Cup finals in West Germany.

In the intervening years, Boskovic was in great demand in many Asian countries, refereeing in tournaments, World Cup and Olympic Games elimination matches.

We wish him well in Spain and hope that he will do what the Socceroos sadly failed to achieve—show Australian soccer's flag in front of the world's largest live and TV audiences ever.

Tony Boskovic: off to his second World Cup finals

MOST TOP SEEDS STRUGGLED IN AMPOL CUP

—By Paul James

AMPOL CUP RESULTS:

Round 1:

Avala v. Rockdale	2-1
St George v. Sydney City	0-0
Blacktown v. Canterbury	1-0
Yugal v Marconi	1-3
Bankstown v. Leichhardt	2-6
Polonia v. Manly	0-2
Melita v. Sutherland	3-3
Croatia v. Auburn	1-0

Round 2:

Auburn v. St.George	0-2
Rockdale v. Olympic	1-6
Croatia v. JM United	1-0
Leichhardt v. Wollongong	1-1
Canterbury v. Yugal	4-0
Polonia v. Bankstown	3-1
Blacktown v. Riverwood	4-1
Melita v. Avala	3-2

Round 3:

Bankstown v. Wollongong	0-5
Avala v. Olympic	0-2
Manly v. Leichhardt	1-1
Auburn v. Sydney City	1-3
JM United v. St.George	1-3
Canterbury v. Marconi	0-4
Riverwood v. Yugal	2-0
Sutherland v. Rockdale	1-1

Round 4:

Sutherland v. Olympic	0-1
Croatia v. St.George	0-1
JM United v. Sydney City	0-1
Riverwood v. Marconi	2-2
Manly v. Wollongong	0-5
Polonia v. Leichhardt	0-2
Blacktown v. Yugal	3-0
Melita v. Rockdale	1-0

Round 5:

Sutherland v. Avala	1-2
Blacktown v. Marconi	1-3
Manly v. Bankstown	1-2
Polonia v. Wollongong	0-2
Riverwood v. Canterbury	0-2
Melita v. Olympic	3-1
JM United v. Auburn	0-0
Croatia v. Sydney City	2-0

Group C play off:

St.George v. Sydney City	1-0

Quarterfinals

Marconi v. Leichhardt	5-0
Blacktown v. Wollongong	1-0

Perhaps the biggest surprise of the Ampol Cup preliminary rounds was the elimination of one of the PSL teams—none other than Sydney City, the reigning PSL champions who were knocked out in a play off by St George. However, the fact that both teams fielded mainly reserves took a lot of gloss off this encounter

As the rounds progressed, all the PSL teams began to improve. It's perhaps significant that all three losses by PSL teams against State League opponents came when the PSL clubs fielded reserve teams

This controversial practice, undertaken to keep the top teams fresh for the weekend PSL rounds, was roundly and bitterly criticised by the Federation

After the first two rounds both Marconi and Blacktown looked clear favorites in Group A. By their third matches they were assured of their quarterfinal places when Marconi rolled Canterbury 4-0 and Blacktown beat Yugal 3-0.

Dom Kapetanovic seemed best able to motivate his youngish Marconi team in the Ampol Cup, as was later evidenced by their stunning 5-0 win over Leichhardt in a quarterfinal match. This result was all the more remarkable because Leichhardt were leading the PSL with six straight wins, playing with great enthusiasm and threatening to storm away from the field

Coach Willie Wallace, however, may eventually find some merit in the defeat as it should show up his team's well camouflaged (until then, that is) weaknesses.

Yugal coach Ilja Takac may have a few headaches with his team this year—again.

Although they have won many friends with their entertaining brand of soccer, Yugal lost all their four Cup matches, ending up at the foot of the table

Attila Abonyi was a little disappointed that Riverwood didn't win a few more points but admits that he was more interested in building up his team for the season

Blacktown, under the guidance of Rale Rasic, caused a major surprise when they beat Wollongong in the quarterfinal. After early predictions that Blacktown would not be too dominant in the State League many coaches are now rapidly revising their estimates

Manly looked like the surprise packet from Group B but after an excellent start with a win over Polonia and a draw with Leichhardt, they slumped badly in a 5-0 loss to Wollongong, then were beaten by Bankstown

Polonia were sorely depleted through the defection of manly players from last year and the youngsters called upon by coach Tony Komoder couldn t quite cope with the big task

Group C turned out to be the controversial one. St.George manager Frank Arok was rebuked for his press comments about the Cup and for fielding a reserve team which duly lost to JM United. His crime seemed to be not what he did but what he said: the $500 fine will make him more cautious when he chooses the pressman he can trust. Both Sydney City and Olympic followed suit later, using reserve teams but did it without making a fuss and got away with it

Croatia topped the group though they were not always convincing. Fil Bottalico is adamant that the team s dashing attacking style will return. With the Kovacic brothers, Coyne and Steven out of action through injuries, he had to operate with a new and weak midfield

St.George got a 1-0 win over Croatia after their embarrassing loss to JM United which, even with a reserve team, they should have avoided

Group D included Olympic, the swashbuckling buccaneers of the Sydney scene who had threatened to take on the whole world during the January and February international tournament and who, flatteringly enough, were held up in the Hungarian press as paragons of Australian soccer virtues

Then, in the Cup, Olympic began to stutter. A 2-0 win over Avala was followed by a lucky 1-0 against Sutherland, before a 3-1 loss to Melita (with a reserve team...). Still, the defeat didn't matter much as their six points took them through to the quarterfinals

The remaining quarterfinals will see St.George meet Melita and Croatia and Olympic clashing in the other game Blacktown and Marconi, of course are already in the semifinals

SOCCER IS STILL BIG CROWD PULLER

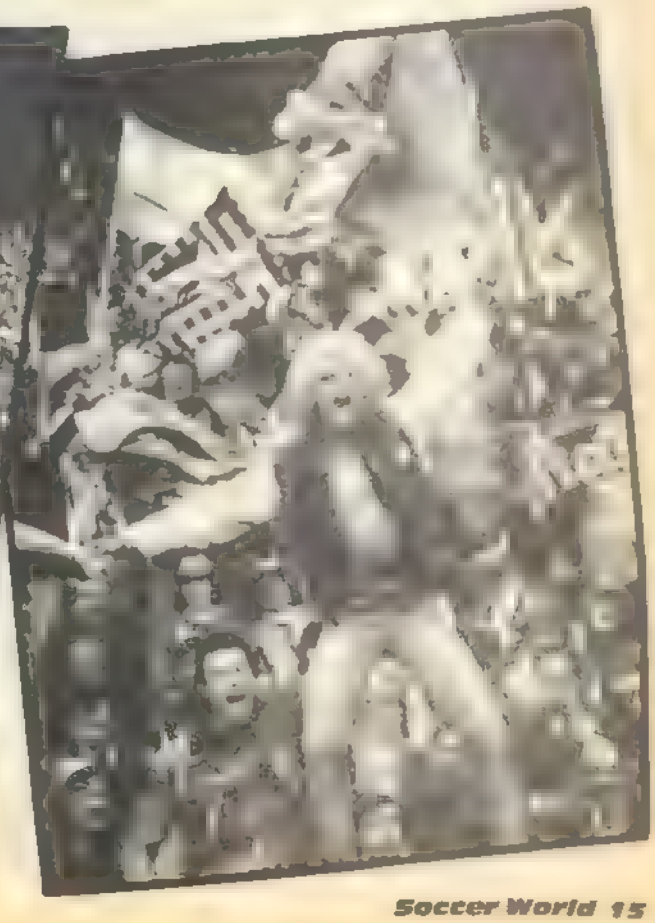
Soccer's universal appeal is not diminishing at all; enormous crowds still flock, all over the world, to see top teams in top action.

True, many clubs are in financial difficulties. Not because they don't attract crowds—but because they overspend on star players.

Take Barcelona of Spain, Boca Juniors of Argentina or Liverpool of England which drew averages of 88,000, 80,000 and 40,000 respectively—but spend as if they had crowds of 100,000 and more.

The pictures on these pages give an idea of the game's enormous power and public appeal overseas. Will Australia ever get to that level?

At right: A packed house showering confetti in the River Plate Stadium of Buenos Aires.
Bottom left: The famous 'Bonbonniere' or chocolate box stadium of Boca Juniors, also in Buenos Aires.
Bottom, right: Colorfully dressed—or undressed—cheerleader of the French club St. Etienne.
Opposite page:
Top: Firemen have to cool the ardor of protesting fans in Porto Alegre, Brazil.
Left, bottom: Happy Nigerian fans, all wearing their national team's colors.
Right, bottom: A lovely bunch of youngsters at London's Wembley.



RALE STILL BITTER ABOUT SOCCER KNIGHT

—By Andrew Dettre

I HAVE KNOWN Rale Rasic since the end of 1969. I have had many arguments with him and also shared a hotel room with him in Hong Kong. I have seen him in victory and defeat, smiling and hissing like a cobra. We have often fought for the same principles and violently disagreed on certain other issues. I criticised him in print and he tore into me verbally But I have always regarded him as one of the most able coaches in Australian soccer

Rasic is a difficult man to like incessantly. He is outspoken to the point of brutality, has a massive ego and is by far the best manipulator of the press around; reporters eat out of his hand Rasic is the eternal good copy

But he also has a warm Slavic generosity and an air of enthusiastic innocence about him; he sees himself as the savior of Australian soccer

At 46, Zvonimir Rasic (to give him his proper first name; Rale, the easier to spell and pronounce, was what his mother had called him) is a calmer, more deliberate man than he was say 10 years ago. Before he used to shoot from the hip and ask questions later. Now, with a degree of maturity and native cunning, he has learned to survive in the jungle called Australian sport

And survive he has quite well: he is probably one of the highest income earners of all soccer coaches and managers—despite being with a State League club, Blacktown in NSW. Rasic the coach is also Rasic the businessman The poor war-orphan of Yugoslavia, the man with unabashed socialist principles, is on the way to become a comfortable capitalist

Since 1967, when he retired from playing in Melbourne (JUST), he has steered the fortunes of some great clubs: JUST, Melbourne HSC, St.George, Marconi, Olympic, Marconi again, Adelaide City and now Blacktown. In between, he was at the helm of the Socceroos when they reached the 1974 World Cup Finals and, for a brief period, was a household name from Stuttgart to Santiago.

Over the years, Rasic has learned a lot—and forgotten hardly anything. His feud with ASF chief Sir Arthur George is the longest running act in soccer. These two strong-minded, power-oriented men are like two king tigers at each other's throat; neither lets go, neither succumbs It's a fight to the end. And Rasic is some 20 years younger

Tens of thousands of words have been written and spoken about the 'Rasic Affair' with the ASF; gossip, rumors and dark innuendos have been floating around for years. Both men have given their version—a version—and both have probably held back. You don't use your last trumps in trench warfare; the final act is yet to come

WHITLAM RALLY

"I could write a book about Australian soccer in the past 10 years or so," says Rasic with a mysterious smile that is his trademark. "Arthur George? Well, we started off as friends and worked together until the glory began to fade. That's when things began to go wrong

"Sure I have made my share of mistakes. I never deny it. But they were minor ones, not enough to turn the ASF against me. I think the major problem was that Arthur George felt I was getting too much publicity and it was time for him to occupy centre stage."

Rasic says even politics entered the picture to further erode their friendship. At the mid-term 1974 Federal elections Rasic was one of the sporting personalities to publicly endorse Gough Whitlam and the ALP at the Opera House. He was one of the speakers on the platform together with Mike Wenden, Dawn Fraser, Bobby McCarthy, Dennis Pittard and others.

"After that Arthur George told me I shouldn't have done it," he recalls. "He said I had no right to be there. From then on I was treated like a ballboy

"Later that year when I got on a Government Study Committee inquiring into the establishment of a Sports Institute—which was an ALP initiative—I felt it was a great honor for soccer. It was the only code of football directly represented. But the ASF remained silent. Not a word from them, not even a request later to give them a report. The whole matter was ignored.

"Actually, it was during a trip with that Committee, while I was in Germany, that I heard about Eric Worthington's temporary appointment to replace me as national coach."

Rasic claims that all the insinuations about a financial argument with the ASF are malicious and distorted.

"George told me I was 'money hungry.' What a laugh, that coming from a multi-millionaire to a working coach. Let me make something clear now.

"In the first two years as national coach, I was on $2,000 p.a. retainer. In the third and fourth years I was on $3,000 p.a. plus bonuses. A total of $10,000 over four years plus bonuses

"It was the bonuses that eventually caused the problem. A group of sponsors kicked some money into a fund for the World Cup. The players were promised $1,000 for every point they got in the Finals. We drew with Chile and I felt I was entitled to double bonus, like coaches all over the world. When I asked for that money, I was told that it had nothing to do with the ASF, it was sponsor-money.

"I ask Arthur George now to tell the public what sums I was paid. And when you compare that with what Gutendorf received, mine was beer money. Rudi collected more in expenses in six months than what I received in four years pay. And then I was the one they called 'money hungry.'

"All that time I worked as a part-time national coach and my clubs in that period—St. George, Marconi and Olympic—suffered through my commitments and absences. None received any compensation. So that's the money story "

Rasic (second from right) at the 1974 World Cup. Others, from left: Dr. Brian Corrigan, assistant coach Les Scheinflug and manager John Barclay

UNWANTED HELPERS

Rasic says there were some other people, too, ready to denounce him after the World Cup in 1974.

"I can name two here, Tony Boggi and Eric Worthington who, I am sure, hated me. Boggi turned up in our Swiss training camp, wearing an Australian tracksuit to which he was not entitled, wanting to train my goalies. I declined his offer. Eric was in Hamburg and our manager John Barclay had to dissuade him when he wanted to interfere with the training. I didn't need either of them; I had Les Scheinflug there as my assistant."

Rasic claims he half expected to lose the national coaching post after 1974 and worked happily with clubs for a couple of years. Then came what he calls the most embarrassing slap in his face.

"In 1975 we had no national coach. In 1976 we had Brian Green for a few months, before he left suddenly. OK, so they asked for nominations. I was directly encouraged by the ASF to apply. I wish I hadn't.

"One day I had to go to the Potts Point Travelodge for an interview. There were eight people there asking questions. One, Jim Connell from Adelaide, said to me:'Mr. Rasic, what do you know about junior soccer?'

"In all fairness to him, Arthur George wanted to brush him aside. But I said I wanted to reply. So I said to Connell I was a fully qualified physical education teacher. I also said that in 1970 I won the Australian Under-16 championship with Victoria, in Adelaide and the man to hand me the trophy was he himself. Then I asked if he wanted a national coach or one for ten-year-old kids.

"Ian Brusasco from Brisbane said I'd have a chance if I promised not to play defensive soccer. So I asked him what he called attacking and defensive soccer?

"John Warren came to be interviewed after me. He was treated in the same cavalier fashion. A Perth delegate asked him what his playing record was. It's the same as if some idiot asked Pele in Rio whether he ever played soccer

"It was only shortly after that I discovered the whole thing was a sham: it had been pre-arranged that Alan Veat would get the job, we had no chance. But somehow the NSW delegates managed to bugger up the deal and so Jimmy Shoulder, who had applied just for the hell of it, got the position."

Rasic: pondering his future, recalling the past.

But Rasic, as usual, survived the trauma and what he now calls the 'total humiliation.' He walked away from what he regards as a 'set up' job and chuckled audibly when in 1977 the Australian team failed pretty miserably in its World Cup quest, despite having a fulltime man, Shoulder, in charge.

Yet there was more to come: Arthur George had a new surprise for the old foe

"After the 1977 fiasco, Shoulder resigned and went back to England," says Rasic. "A year later Arthur George came back from the FIFA Congress in Argentina and told the press at the airport that there were two candidates for the job to succeed Shoulder—me and a foreign one

"Within hours I had reporters on the phone and TV crews invading my house. I told the Marconi club where I worked then not to worry as I wouldn't take the job but couldn't say so publicly. It would have given more ammunition to the ASF against me. The Marconi president, Angelo Bagatella, said I should go for the post, the highest honor in Australian soccer.

"So I went along for an interview with Arthur George to his offices, in 151 Macquarie Street. I had my first surprise when I was not taken to his usual office but to a tiny and almost bare room. We didn't even sit down. I was asked if I would promise to be a good boy. I said yes. I was in and out in 90 seconds. That was the interview

"As I was heading towards the lift, I saw an ABC TV crew sweep past me, led by

• Continued on page 18

• Continued from page 17.

Martin Royal. They didn't even nod to me. So I felt that there was something very strange going on. And there was: 48 hours later Arthur George announced Gutendorf's appointment."

Rasic is convinced that the ASF president is still 'after him.' He says it's not a form of paranoia, he has had too many unmistakable signs not to be wary.

"Last year a soccer newspaper printed a story about me with my photo," he says. "Next day the publisher, a close associate of Arthur George, allegedly chewed out the editor who almost had to resign.

"Then there was that classic interview with Ian Chappell on TV when he told the public how bad my record was, that Adelaide City had always finished at the bottom with me. He should have checked his facts. Adelaide City finished fifth in both years and won the Philips Cup."

Do these two men talk to one another?

"Not really," says Rasic. "I say hello and he says hello and that's that. We have become enemies. I know I have no chance with him around. But I have the satisfaction that I did it, in 1974. Since then the ASF has failed twice to get to the World Cup finals—at incomparably higher cost. Rudi was Arthur George's discovery and appointment, his personal choice. Look at the disaster of last year.

"So my record still stands intact and I am proud of it. The ASF can get $100 million together for the next bid and may still fail. We succeeded on a shoestring.

"Now the ASF is broke and so are many of the top clubs. In fact, I don't think we have ever been worse off financially than now. Meanwhile, New Zealand can laugh all the way to the bank with a hefty share of the World Cup profits."

He is also bitter about the lack of direction the national team is laboring under at the moment.

"At least the ASF should have learned from the past," he argues. "If they bothered to find out how we made it in 1973 and why we botched it in 1977 and 1981, there would be some hope for them. But there is no such fact-finding, no plan and no planning.

"In 1982 there won't be any internationals at all. We don't know what happen in 1983 and 1984. What the ASF always forgets is that for us the World Cup is a year before the actual event—when the elimination games have to be played. We should start preparing now, not in 1983, losing another year. But it's much the same as before. Green and Shoulder were appointed in 1976 only, not a year earlier because 'we had time.' Gutendorf didn't really get cracking until well into 1979.

"At present we have no national team and no personality players. So the ASF is playing on the public sentiment by talking about the youth players. But if [illegible]

Sir Arthur George: the war goes on.

don't get a chance now to play together, all such talk is just more hogwash.

"At any rate, a coach should select his best players, not young ones and old ones. There are good and bad players in soccer; age has nothing to do with it.

"Any national coach should, before he is appointed, submit a detailed, long-range plan to the ASF. Gutendorf didn't and I doubt whether Les Scheinflug has been even asked to do it. So how will they assess him later, what's the yardstick he will be measured against?"

And so the war goes on: Rasic v. ASF or, perhaps more accurately, v. Arthur George, knight of the realm, undisputed king and kingmaker of Australian soccer, wealthy businessman and entrepreneur.

Both men have had their ups and downs, both have their critics. The outcome of the feud is uncertain; be ready for new turns and twists.

But, as I said, Rasic is some 20 years younger...

RASIC WORKS WITH SUPER-KIDS

Rasic is in the process of making an old soccer dream come through: at Blacktown he has established a 'Super Group.'

Hr and his helpers have hand-picked 14 boys aged 11 and 12 from some 600 applicants and will give them 400 hours of coaching this year. The boys will NOT play in any competition games in 1982, only in exhibition games and friendlies. The 400 hours is spent on pure coaching and tuition.

Doug Utjesenovic and David Lee are helping with the project financed by a group of sponsors and run under the aegis of a special Board, quite separate from the Blacktown club's.

"I want to eliminate, temporarily, the mad 'winning syndrome' from the boys and especially their parents," Rasic says. "When the kids play for points, they feel they must try to win. This way we can teach them the fundamentals without pressure."

The boys—or rather, their parents—have signed a four-year contract and will stay with the scheme until the end of 1985.

"Natural talent is not too common in Australian soccer," says Rasic. "Unlike in many overseas countries, here the skills must be taught and drilled. In Brazil or Yugoslavia, for example, a kid of 12 is a ball juggler. Here they are physically stronger but clumsier."

To aid the project, Rasic and his backers will build a whole Sports Centre at Blacktown, complete with indoor facilities. It should be ready by Christmas.

"We have conducted some experiments with the boys to see their shortcomings," he says. "We found that they make exactly the same mistakes with their hands that they make with their feet. We asked them to play handball, basketball and volleyball. If a kid's passing in soccer was faulty, it was also faulty with his hands. So we will work on co-ordination and ball handling skills a great deal."

Rasic has relied on information gained in many overseas countries to plan his Sports Centre where he and his assistants want to teach the youngsters how to handle the ball expertly in small, confined areas, such as indoors.

"We all know it's the skill factor which drags Australian standards down, so we will work on that," he says.

Rasic is quite content to work at Blacktown, now a State League club, and has a handshake-contract for three years. I asked him if he was missing the glamor of big-time soccer.

"What glamor," he exploded. "Anyway, Blacktown may not be out of it too long. The way the PSL is shaping, their Sydney teams will either rejoin us or, if it picks up, we will get back there.

"But I am pessimistic about the future of the PSL. Clubs like Canberra, Adelaide City, Heidelberg, Footscray and some others cannot flirt with financial disaster for ever. Maybe soon the clubs will have to become shareholding companies where people who put up the money dictate [illegible]

"I feel Australian soccer is not honest and dignified enough at top level. I am happy at Blacktown which should become one of the country's leading clubs in three years or so. They had to start from scratch, without any real tradition behind them. The only picture in the clubhouse is that of Ian Hunter. But who is Ian Hunter in terms of soccer [illegible]

"Give us three years and we will be the top club in playing, coaching and administration."

TOP SOCCER

PHILIPS LEAGUE

SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

ROUND 8, APRIL 4

Wollongong v. Newcastle KB ..... [:]
South Melbourne v. Canberra City ..... [:]
Sydney City v. Footscray ..... [:]
West Adelaide v. Brisbane City ..... [:]
Sydney Olympic v. Leichhardt ..... [:]
Preston v. Heidelberg ..... [:]
Brisbane Lions v. St.George ..... [:]
Marconi v. Adelaide City ..... [:]

ROUND 9, APRIL 11

Heidelberg v. Wollongong ..... [:]
Newcastle v. South Melbourne ..... [:]
Canberra City v. Sydney City ..... [:]
Footscray v. West Adelaide ..... [:]
Brisbane City v. Leichhardt ..... [:]
Marconi v. Sydney Olympic ..... [:]
Adelaide City v. Brisbane Lions ..... [:]
St. George v. Preston ..... [:]

WITH ALL INQUIRIES PLEASE RING THE PSL SECRETARY MR. KEMP ON 29 7025

ROUND10, APRIL 18

Wollongong v. St.George ..... [:]
South Melbourne v. Heidelberg ..... [:]
Sydney City v. Newcastle ..... [:]
West Adelaide v. Canberra City ..... [:]
Leichhardt v. Footscray ..... [:]
Sydney Olympic v. Brisbane City ..... [:]
Preston v. Adelaide City ..... [:]
Brisbane Lions v. Marconi ..... [:]

ROUND 11, APRIL 25

Adelaide City v. Wollongong ..... [:]
St. George v. South Melbourne ..... [:]
Heidelberg v. Sydney City ..... [:]
Newcastle v. West Adelaide ..... [:]
Canberra City v. Leichhardt ..... [:]
Footscray v. Brisbane City ..... [:]
Brisbane Lions v. Sydney Olympic ..... [:]
Marconi v. Preston ..... [:]

FOR VENUES AND KICK-OFF TIMES PLEASE CHECK YOUR DAILY NEWSPAPERS ON FRIDAYS AND SATURDAYS.

ERNIE THE INCOMPARABLE MAY QUIT AT SEASON'S END

Ernie Campbell in his Hakoah days.

He is one of the friendliest souls in our soccer — a quiet fellow with a ready smile and warm greeting. At 32 he is still somewhat shy, a far cry from his often feared image on the field. Only his long, flaming red hair enveloping his head like a burning tiara gives out a slight hint of a temper.

Ernie Campbell is one of the 'oldies' of Australian soccer. Not because 32 is anything to worry about; not because he has lost his fit and slim frame but because he's been around for so long: 15 years, in fact. During that time—actually, some 12 years ago—he became an instant legend.

The occasion was the replay of the 1969 NSW Grand Final, after the first game ended in a 1-1 draw. Two days later APIA and St.George took the field again, greatly depleted. Both were without their Australian stars due to fly out the next morning to Seoul, South Korea, on a World Cup mission and the ASF wouldn't allow them to play.

Some 11,000 fans on Tuesday night (merciful heavens, when will we have 11,000 on a Tuesday night or any other night again...) saw the Saints run to a comfortable 2-0 lead through goals by Denton and Cliss. It really looked all over; only 10 minutes remained.

And then Ernie Campbell sprang into action like a programmed juggernaut. Quiet and rather ineffective until those last few fateful minutes, Campbell simply exploded and smashed in three goals, clinching the trophy for APIA. His last two goals fell in the 87th and 90th minutes.

Campbell was 20 then—and already in his third season in top soccer, with a scholarship trip to London behind him.

He started playing at school, at Ibrox Park in Annandale but doesn't remember why he picked soccer. Nobody else in the family had been in the game before him. Then he joined Canterbury juniors, that once tremendously rich, fertile soccer breeding ground—and got his first big break.

"I was playing in the curtain-raiser at Marks Field before a friendly international," Ernie says. "It was in 1965. Prague played a team from Europe, Hungary I think and Prague's guest player, then Chelsea manager Tommy Docherty spotted me. After the game he asked me if I'd like to go to London for a season."

Well, it wasn't a Hungarian team but the German VfB Stuttgart, coached by none other than 'our' Rudi Gutendorf. Campbell is not at his best remembering names, dates and even matches; he has no idea how many first division games he has played or how many goals he has scored.

Could work it out, I guess," he offers helpfully, "my mother has kept all my cuttings."

So it was Docherty, years later the resident saint of Sydney Olympic, who first spotted a true talent. He talked to the boy, then 15, and offered him an all expenses apprenticeship to Chelsea, in London.

And Ernie went, together with another youngster, Colin Minor. "I stayed there for a season" he recalls, "and played about 20 games in one of the two youth teams. I was staying in digs and managed on seven quid that I received. Peter Houseman was one of the chaps in my youth team, John Boyle another. I can't think of the others. The first team then had such stars as Osgood, Venables, Bonetti, Tambling, Hollins and Harris."

All except John Hollins have since vanished from the scene; Houseman, in partnership with Osgood, runs a pub somewhere outside London.

A year later Campbell was back in Sydney, itching to test his newly acquired soccer prowess. So he went along to APIA ("I lived just next door") and got into the reserve team. Then, in October 1966, he was thrown in at the deep end—in an Australia Cup semifinal in Melbourne against Hungaria.

In March, Ernie Campbell was dropped for a couple of games by Frank Arok.

Is that the end of the line for him?

"Not at all," so says Arok. "I play the men who are in the best shape.

A pity we can use only one sub in a match, not two. This way you are limited in your configurations.

"So there is no 'Campbell-crisis' at all. He will play many more matches this year and probably win quite a few for us, too."

SOCCER ACTION

For the latest news, PSL reports, previews and best player voting.
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He had a disappointing game. Our reporter, Lou Gautier wrote: 'The APIA wingers, especially Campbell, were completely out of their depth and Campana was only a shadow of his usual clever self.' Still, APIA won 3-0. For the final, Campbell was dropped and APIA won the match 2-0 against Hakoah.

But the slim, tall youngster with the close-cropped red hair, was on his way. By next March he was a regular on the right wing. A month later we wrote in 'Soccer World;' 'Watch APIA's Campbell more than holding his own on the right wing.' And he did just that. In the 8th round, in a 4-0 win over Prague, he got his first goal. APIA stood on 16 points after eight games...

"I stayed with APIA for about seven years," says Campbell, that 'about' being one of his many approximations; he hates keeping precise accounts. "I loved it there and we had some great seasons. Then I left because of a contract dispute.

"It was in APIA where I learned the most, mainly from Ricardo Campana. It was sheer pleasure playing next to him. I think he was the greatest player ever to come out here. I tried to model my game on his, even copied his footwork. Some people say I have a fair amount of skill. Perhaps. But what I do have is more than natural. It was possibly my year at Chelsea and then Campana's influence that helped me develop."

From APIA the road led to another Italian-backed club, Marconi. Mick Jones, then the coach, wanted to build his attack on Campbell.

"Two weeks after my arrival there Jones got the sack. Don't know why," he says. "But I stayed on for about five years (again that 'about') and then went on to Hakoah. It was midway through 1980 that St. George signed me. I was 30 then."

Earlier, in 1972, Campbell made the Australian team, playing in three matches against the visiting Israel national side. But his international career was too short; it ended in '75 when Brian Green was the coach. Then—nothing. At 25 he was out of the Aussie squads. But he had at least one great experience, the 1974 World Cup Finals in Germany. He played in the second game, against the West Germans—later world champions—in Hamburg's Volksparkstadion, facing mainly the brilliant pair of Breitner and Overath. I tell Ernie that according to my recollection he was on the right wing.

"Not really," he grins. "We had 10 men in midfield. We were scared of getting a terrible hiding. The Germans had a great team: Beckenbauer, Mueller, Hoeness, Maier and more. They did everything according to a pattern, you could see there was nothing left to chance. They didn't do anything extraordinary but what they did do was perfectly rehearsed and fast, yards faster than we were. And that was the big difference between the teams. We lost 3-0 and the fans jeered off their own team; they had expected a dozen goals."

Campbell has had a fiery career over the years. He doesn't know how many times he has been sent off for fouls and dissent. "Talking to the refs has been my main problem," he admits sheepishly. "Well, maybe not just talking. I used to scream at them some vile abuse if I felt they'd made a mistake against us. I do know this makes things only worse; I know they won't change their mind, even if I get on my knees. But sometimes you can't help it. It's in the heat of the moment, in a very competetive sport and you feel you're cheated so you react.

"But I am a lot calmer now," he adds with a smile. "I might still make some passing remark to the ref but mainly in jest. I don't do my block any more. Here at St. George the fine is $1,000 if you are sent off for a stupid reason, such as violent dissent. One thousand...And Frank Arok would enforce it, too. So far nobody has been sent off for such a crime."

Ernie Campbell is slightly coy when you ask him about his past brushes with the Saints, almost apologetic about his deeds. Yet he wasn't quite surpri[illegible] in in 1980 they bid for him

Cont P 22

• Continued from previous page.

"I have always liked this club and their style of play," he says, "but felt that they hated me. First it was that 1969 Grand Final when I stole their match. Then, years later, their star fullback Bobby Hogg broke his leg when we clashed for the ball

"It was a terrible injury and just about ended his career. I felt absolutely shattered when it happened and after the match dashed to visit him in Fairfield Hospital. Bobby knew it wasn't my fault but most St. George supporters didn't care; I was the villain who ruined Hogg's career. So I expected a lot of stick from their fans when I joined the club but they received me in a very friendly way. It's a truly great club "

Campbell's contract with the Saints runs out at the end of this season. And then? He doesn't know. If St. George offer him an extension, he will happily accept; if they don't, he will probably retire. He doesn't cherish the thought of playing in lower divisions

He is not sure whether he will ever turn to coaching or whether he can live without soccer ("I haven't tried it yet").

For the time being he is happy playing under Frank Arok, holding down a good job as sales rep with Rokset, a company stocking painters' supplies and enjoying life with his girlfriend, Marie Hagan, an insurance company supervisor. Once married and divorced, Ernie sees his kids once a week, trains four nights, then plays a match—a full schedule, really.

But not for a young man of 32 with an irrepressible spirit, good humor and deep love of the game fairly rare among his native-born Australian mates.

—A. De[illegible]

TOP CAMP IN MAY

One of the best prepared and most professionally run coaching camps will be held in the May school holidays in the ideal surroundings of the Sydney University campus

The curriculum and the whole program have been drawn up by St George coach-manager Frank Arok and his assistant, Richard Alagich

Both have the highest coaching degrees from Yugoslavia; until 1980 Arok was president of the Yugoslav Coaches' Federation.

The camp—Pacific Soccer Camps—will cater for youngsters from 10 to 18 and also offer specialised goalkeeping courses conducted by Fred Wall

The boys will be quartered in comfortable single rooms at the University and will literally eat, drink and live soccer from 8.30am to 8.30pm.

Applications are also accepted from kids on a non-live-in basis.

The camp will be held from May 17, Monday to May 21, Friday. Inquiries to Pacific Soccer Camps, Box 239, Manly, [illegible]

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NEWCASTLE COACH WITH TIGHTROPE TRICK

—By Eric Burns

The departure of Paul Trisley as secretary and Alan Vest as manager-coach brought to an end a regime that had much to do with the establishing of Newcastle KB United in the PSL.

Paul Trisley will be sadly missed; an honest, hard-working and brilliant administrator who won the respect of everyone in soccer for his work with the Newcastle club over the past four years and capped it off with a memorably efficient organisation during the World Youth Cup.

Trisley has been replaced by David McQuire, an accountant by profession, who is best remembered by most as the talented goalkeeper of APIA and then St George before his career took him to Newcastle. He will need to call on all his previous soccer and business experiences if he is to fill the void left by Trisley's departure.

I believe it was Trisley's sense of loyalty that led to Alan Vest getting the extended opportunity that he did to manage the playing side of things for four years without much interference.

Vest, in my view, wasted that opportunity, producing a number of mediocre imports and parading them in front of an enthusiastic though rather naive Newcastle public.

It became obvious to the more learned Newcastle fans that the type of soccer encouraged by Vest was taking the club nowhere. His excuses over lack of money, injuries and sheer bad luck wore thin in the end.

In truth, his was a typical hard-running English fourth division style no longer enough to achieve success in what is a vastly improved PSL.

The subsequent appointment of Ken Kaiser, a local man who became the year's only Australian-born PSL coach, certainly raised a few eyebrows. Kaiser, in his early 30s and a miner by trade, has had limited experience as a player, having played some local soccer with West Wallsend.

Most of his coaching experience has been gained under Vest who originally spotted him on a coaching course and invited him along to help with the training of the team and later appointed him to take charge of the youth team.

He was appointed to the position on a part-time basis, given a limited budget and a brief to concentrate on introducing some of Newcastle's younger soccer talent.

A Newcastle director and journalist Neil Jamieson, writing in the club's match program on the opening day of the season, said this:

Bertogna-gone to Wollongong

"With the club fighting the twin wards of how to do well in the League while trying to stay in front of escalating costs, the appointment of Kaiser on a part-time basis was a perfect solution for the vacancy created by the departure of Alan Vest."

Well, cutting costs may have been done but doing well in the League they certainly are not. At the time of writing, six matches are already gone with only three points out of a possible 12 so far secured.

What must be even more worrying for the Directors is the alarming decrease in attendances. A mere 3,000 or so turned up to see Marconi...

Kaiser can hardly be blamed. He has already introduced three local youngsters, Brett Gemmell, Ralph Meier and David Lowe. Talented as they are, it will obviously take them time to find their feet—just as much as it will take time for Kaiser to adjust his thinking from youth to PSL level

All this doesn't solve the club's immediate problem of restoring the supporters' faith in the team.

This can only be done if the obvious key deficiencies are rectified immediately.

The centre of the defence has looked especially vulnerable for some time. Craig Mason has developed into one of the most constructive sweepers in the PSL but he badly needs a stopper in the Col Bennett—Steve O'Connor mould to play beside him.

The signing of Gary Dooley from Adelaide has produced a better organised midfield but a top-class left-sided player who can win the ball is still needed to balance the more subtle skills of Senkalski and Dooley.

The major problem up front is the lack of consistent goal-scorers, at least one man who can grab some 15 goals a season. Memories of Ken Boden still linger...

McClelland—still with the club

David Lowe who was introduced against Marconi and scored two goals with all the aplomb of a veteran, could be the answer. The stocky former Tasman Cup schoolboy star certainly has talent and Kaiser deserves credit for giving him a chance.

There are many Novocastrians who feel that Kaiser has been used by the Board as a cheap alternative to the appointment of a more experienced coach.

It will be interesting to see how long the Board will stand by him if the results and crowds don't improve.

If you use one of these

you could use one of these

Tiger Balm

CHINESE HERBAL RUB

Hey's—gone to Adelaide

THE MAKING OF YOUNG PLAYERS

TRAPPING THE BALL

Trapping is taking possession or receiving the ball which may come to us on the ground, in the air and from any direction. Several parts of the body can be used

1. The feet
2. The thigh
3. The stomach
4. The chest
5. The head

TRAPPING WITH THE INSIDE OF THE FOOT

This is perhaps the most often used technique. The inside of the foot, with its large, cushioned surface, is ideal for receiving balls low or high

There is a basic principle when receiving or trapping a ball. The part of the body used has to move as far as possible **toward** the approaching ball and, on impact, it pulls a bit back It s like a loosely held net breaking the pace of any object thrown at it. The ball's force is broken and deadened. To achieve this, the muscles and joints must be kept loose and the body relaxed

The execution of the movement is almost the very opposite of the technique needed for the various types of kickings

Trapping with the inside of the foot is a good example for this. Just as the ball reaches the foot, which is turned slightly outwards, the leg moves back to halt the ball.

Beginners will soon enough realise that it's not enough just to stab a foot at the ball; unless the whole leg moves back, withdrawing the foot on impact, the ball—especially if a fast ball—will bounce away or roll through the top of the foot

To trap a ball coming in the air at no higher than knee level, it is easiest to raise the foot high, with the ankle turning outward and cushioning the ball's fall by a measured backswing of the leg

Players take it in turn to pass and to trap the ball with the sole of the boot.

TRAPPING WITH THE FULL INSTEP

This needs more polished technique. It is used when the ball is dropping from the air from a fair height and you want to stop it before it lands—by letting it drop on your **instep.**

All the body weight is on the non-kicking leg, the other should be loose and 'soft,' raised by a well-bent knee. The key to the operation is to lift the '**trapping**' foot high to meet the dropping ball. If you only allow the ball to hit you on the instep on the ground, the ball's fall won't be broken and it will bounce away.

TRAPPING WITH THE SOLE

This is perhaps the oldest surviving technique of trapping—but still widely used It is perfect for rolling balls or those which have just bounced

The idea is to form a 'trap' with the sole of your boot, by lifting the foot to an angle of some 45 deg. at slightly above a ball's height from the ground Both knees must be bent.

The foot, relaxed and loose, is placed over the ball, making it come to a stop Don't smash the foot on the ball—place it over it as if it were a balloon and the ball will stop dead.

These excerpts are from 'Complete Book of Soccer' by Andrew Dettre, published by Summit Books and are reproduced here with the kind permission of the Publishers.

If the ball is arriving from high above, the angle of the foot is less but the leg is lifted higher to give you room to get over the ball properly

During this type of trapping, follow the ball closely as it drops from the air; if you take your eyes off for a split second, it's almost impossible to find the right angle for your foot once the ball has landed

TRAPPING WITH THE THIGH

At times the opposition gives you no time to receive the ball in a conventional way, with the foot The ball is coming in the air and the player knows that if he lets it drop, it will be a 50-50 ball. That's when the thigh comes handy

The thigh is a large, well padded surface suitable for acting to brake the fall of the ball

The body balance is kept by the supporting leg which must be bent, the arms go out in front of the body to further help this balance The thigh of the receiving leg—with which you want to trap the ball—is raised, with the knee bent to form a 70 deg angle behind

If the angle is smaller the ball, after landing on the thigh, will bounce forward. (This, actually, can be used as a way of passing.)

Ideally, the ball makes a small bounce on the thigh, then loses its pace and you can safely let it drop then to the ground. At the moment of impact you must gently withdraw the leg from its elevated position to lessen the impact of the landing ball

The player on the left brings the ball down on the full instep; the player on the right does it with the outside of the instep.

The foot, held at the correct angle, helps form a trap for the ball

Trapping the ball is almost exactly the reverse action of kicking; the foot is used as a brake to bring the ball under control.

SCHUSTER OR NO SCHUSTER—DAS IST THE QUESTION

German fans are not used to chaos caused by temperamental stars; it's discipline and dedication above all which soccer followers demand from their darlings especially in the national team.

This is why millions of Germans are horrified over the decidedly un-Teutonic behaviour of their star midfielder, Bernd Schuster, now with Barcelona

For months now Schuster—a young, blue-eyed blond and obviously a spoilt brat—has been openly declaring that he would not play in the same national team with Paul Breitner

Before the matter could be resolved one way or the other Schuster suffered a bad injury and had to undergo cartilage operation at a special sports clinic in Cologne

It was after that, really, that the major circus started.

Schuster—regarded as the second best player in Europe in 1981—turned the clinic upside down with his behaviour

He refused to accept medical advice about physio-therapy, threw the doctor out of his ward and proved himself to be a thorough pest with staff, nurses and other patients.

His wife didn't help much either. One day she turned up at the clinic and told her husband that she was returning to Barcelona the following morning.

"Come with me or you can stay and find your way back alone," declared the modern-day Brunhilda

So Schuster decided to shoot through, abandoning the post-operative schedule several specialists had prescribed for him.

Star and wife got into his Mercedes sports car and zoomed down to Spain. Then further trouble at the French-Spanish border

The Spanish Customs asked Schuster to stop for a check but the player stepped on the pedal and broke through.

In the first village he was arrested and it was only after 'high up' intervention by his club that he was released on bail.

What will happen next with him?

National manager Jupp Derwall, who reminds one of everybody's favorite uncle, is still hopeful that Schuster will a. change his mind about Breitner and b. will get himself fit for the World Cup.

Schuster's former coach, Hennes Weisweiler, in Cologne—sacked by Cosmos, rumored to go to Madrid next season—claims that West Germany could be world champions if BOTH Breitner and Schuster played in the team.

"Schuster is the greatest German talent since Beckenbauer," he said "Pity he hasn't got his intelligence and dedication But as a player he is superb and could be the No 1 star of the World Cup

Tony Schumacher the current West German goalie

"Germany needs a classic midfield ball distributor and Schuster is the man.

"Breitner, despite his tremendous energy and drive, is not a creative player in the Overath—Netzer mould. But Schuster is just that.

"Alright, he is a bit of an idiot with his behaviour but you have to make some compromises when you go after the World Cup."

And that the Germans do with great fervor.

They are delighted that Stuttgart's elegant midfield ace Hansi Muller has resumed playing (also after a cartilage operation) and hope that Hamburg's injured Felix Magath will be also available by the middle of April.

They are also happy with the form of Cologne's striker Klaus Allofs who recently destroyed Stuttgart single-handed, banging in a hat-trick in the 3-0 match.

The sad news is that, after months of speculation, Franz Beckenbauer has finally decided not even to try to make the national team.

Having recovered from a bad ankle injury, Beckenbauer—now 36—played a couple of great games, before suffering a fractured rib.

But what put paid to his come-back bid was a bitter argument with a Hamburg team-mate, Hartwig.

After that Beckenbauer informed his manager and friend, Netzer, that he would not be available for selection again only as a substitute and in an emergency.

His official farewell match will be early June in Hamburg—and Hartwig is unlikely to be among the guests ..

Commented Weisweiler: "It's tragic to see Beckenbauer end his career on that sour note "

Weisweiler believes that the Germans will have the team to win the World Cup If they don't, he says, then pick Brazil.

"Nobody in the world can match the Brazilians in skill and creative ability. They really play it off the cuff.

"The USSR lacks international experience, the Belgians are good but rather passive, playing a counter-attacking game Still, I think they can beat Argentina.

"The others? Can't see many other chances unless it's the very talented Yugoslavia."

WORLD CUP MORSELS

Only 10 of the "Aussie tourists" were in the Hungarian squad to play a friendly with the Belgian club Antwerpen in March: Kerekes, Rab, Toth, Nyilasi, Sallai, Csongradi, Torocsik, Poloskei, Kiss and Varady. Out went—not surprisingly—both goalies Katzirz and Kakas. Hungary won 8-2 against a subdued Antwerpen.

Of the 45,000 packages—hotel, match tickets—offered for sale by the Spanish Organising Committee, some 38,000 have been sold. The biggest contingent went to England, 6,500 followed by Algeria, 5,500, Kuwait, Argentina and West Germany, 4,000 each and Brazil, 2 500

Peru's fans are delighted that Cueto and Larosa, now playing for Colombian clubs, have been released to train with the national team. They now hope for a similar break-through with Cubillas, Oblitas and Rojas.

Italy's next international match will be in Rome against Switzerland on May 28 The Italians, still smarting under their 0-2 defeat against France—their first in 62 years—are certain to include Paolo Rossi whose ban runs out in April.

Less than three months before the World Cup, Algeria have changed coaches. The Russian Yevgenny Rogov has been demoted to 'advisor' and the new coach is Mahiedin Khalef, a local.

Karl Stotz, the arbitrarily dismissed national coach of Austria, is sueing his association for a cool $100,000. Meanwhile, incredibly enough, the Austrian national team operates with a temporary coach, Georg Schmidt and his assistant, Felix Latzke.

Czechoslovakia's coach Joe Venglos is delighted:his team's difficult South American tour netted them a 0-0 with Argentina and 1-1 with Brazil. "My team was disciplined and well organised," he said. "This is the only way to play against South Americans."

The Argentinian suspension farce ended—in a new farce. Five of River Plate's internationals—Kempes, Passarella, Diaz Gallego and Olarticoachea—were suspended for one year by the national association for 'excessive financial demands.' Later this was reduced to 45 days But even this didn't please national manager Menotti who threatened to resign unless the stars were eligible to play against West Germany on March 24. So finally the 45 days was cut to 35—and the suspension regarded as served

The magnificent, rebuilt Bernabeu Stadium of Real Madrid. A huge cover has been built wrapped around the stands The Bernabeu will be the venue of several matches including the final during the June-July World Cup finals

France will play its last friendly before the World Cup on June 11, in the Basque city of San Sebastian against Real Sociedad. French manager Michel Hidalgo said he would use all his 22 players during the match which will last three times 30 minutes.

Hungarian ace Tibor Nyilasi has shaken off his knee injury which plagued him in Australia and is in brilliant form again. He is now the main driving force of his club, Ferencvaros, chasing the leaders Ujpest for the title

Trouble in Gutendorf's Cameroon. Two national team aces have been suspended for breaches of discipline, one for having stolen a pay envelope from his club treasurer containing a match bonus for a match he didn't even play in. Three Youth internationals, who were seen in Australia in 1981, have been also ousted for a year on charges of having signed contracts with more than one club.

Argentinian aces Fillol, Passarella, Kempes and Diaz want to join European clubs after the World Cup and River Plate hopes to collect close to $10 million for the quartet, squaring the club's unhealthy books

The Germans' 1-0 loss to Brazil in Rio recently merely confirms an old trend Over the years, the Germans have played the Brazilians 10 times—and won only once, back in 1968, in Stuttgart; they have lost seven of the games.

Bobby Charlton says England has no chance in the World Cup unless manager Ron Greenwood chucks out some of the 'old-timers' such as Watson (35), Brooking and Mills (both 33), Neal and Keegan (31). Charlton was 32 when he appeared for England in the 1970 World Cup in Mexico

Italian ace Roberto Pruzzo of AS Roma received a three-match suspension for a recent serious misdemeanour

Scotland has become frugal once again...The Scots have given up their reserved World Cup accommodation at the five-star Paradores Golf Hotel in Malaga and have decided to move their headquarters to the much cheaper Sotogrande sports complex

The USSR, Italy and Yugoslavia have applied for the 1990 World Cup finals, earlier Holland and Belgium also submitted a joint proposal. FIFA will decide in 1984. Meanwhile, Colombia has still not given a final decision whether they can and will stage the finals in 1986.

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Quite a few important friendly internationals were staged last week (March 24-25). In Buenos Aires, the West Germans held hosts and reigning world champions Argentina to a 1-1 draw despite being without their star striker Kalle Rummenigge who had suffered a bad knee injury a few days earlier. In Paris a young France outclassed Northern Ireland, winning 4-0 while in Glasgow the Scots beat Holland 2-1. A setback for Hungary in a 3-2 home defeat against Austria and the Spaniards are also worried following their 1-1 draw with Wales in Valencia. England's World Cup hopes also received a dent when they played a 1-1 draw in Bilbao with the club team Real Sociedad. Perhaps the most impressive result was that of Belgium, whacking Rumania 4-1 in Brussels. Switzerland's 2-1 win over Portugal caused little excitement elsewhere; neither team is in the World Cup finals.

BRAZIL SUFFERS FROM INTERNAL BICKERING AGAIN

The rest of the world is freely tipping Brazil to win the '82 World Cup—but the Brazilians themselves view their prospects with more gloom.

The recent 1-1 draw with Czechoslovakia in Sao Paulo came as a bitter blow to the fans.

Although Brazil did most of the attacking, their strikers had a poor day and were easily shackled by the tight Czechoslovak defence. Zico got the only Brazilian goal, picking up a rebound but, otherwise, had a poor match, just like his midfield partner, Socrates.

To make it worse, the third midfielder, the dynamo of the team, Toninho Cerezo, suffered yet another injury in the game.

Only the attacking fullback Junior stood out for the hosts. The Czechoslovak goal was scored minutes from the end by Janecka, a newcomer.

This was the Brazilian team: Peres—Perivaldo, Oscar, Luisinho, Junior—Cerezo (Renato), Socrates, Zico—Jairzinho (Paulo Isidro), Roberto, Sergio (Eder).

In case you are wondering whether Brazil has a new Jairzinho—it hasn't. It's the same colored winger who played for Brazil in three World Cup finals, from 1966 to 1974.

Now 38 and retired, Jairzinho was recalled for a short period to give him a chance to earn his 100th international cap.

The fact that according to even Brazilian calculations he has only 90 to his credit didn't seem to matter much.

Any excuse is good enough for a fiesta in Brazil.

Manager Tele Santana, shattered after the 1-1 match, now has further headaches.

The big Rio club Flamengo has told him that they would not give an early release for their three internationals, Zico, Junior and Leandro, to join Santana's training squad.

The Brazilian FA is likely to mediate in the dispute which, as so often in the past, is largely an argument between officials and coaches based in Rio and Sao Paulo and for ever engaged in the bitter inter-city rivalry.

Brazilian stopper Oscar (left) chased by Argentine ace Ardiles. Both will play important roles in the World Cup finals.

THE DUNLOP QUIZ

Each month *Soccer World* will publish a set of questions testing your soccer knowledge.
The first correct entry opened will win, each month, a DUNLOP SPORTS KIT consisting of—

- A travel bag;
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If there is no correct entry, the one closest to the target will win the prize. This will be posted to the winner directly by Dunlop Footwear.

The judges' decision will be final and no correspondence or discussion will be entered into.

Only those entries will be eligible which are sent on *Soccer World* coupons.

1. Which was the first Brazilian team to visit Australia?.....
2. Who was Australia's goalie in the 1969 World Cup elimination matches in Seoul? .....
3. A former coach of Prague is now in charge of a national team in Europe—which one? .....
4. Up to the 1960s, Sydney's Dutch community had a successful team—its name? .....
5. A former coach of St.George-Budapest once played for FC Barcelona—who was he?.....
6. One of the players of Pan Hellenic was known then as the 'penalty king'—his name? .....
7. In 1969, Australia played a 1-1 draw with Israel at the Sydney Sportsground in a World Cup match; who scored the Australian goal in that game?.....
8. A few weeks earlier, Australia played in Tel Aviv against Israel—what was the score there?.....
9. Gladesville, in the 1960s, changed its name to one that no longer exists—what was it? .....
10. South Coast United, under Jim Kelly, had a striker who scored in the 1953 English Cup Final—who?.....
11. Sydney City striker John Kosmina's father hails from a European country—which one?.....
12. A former APIA goalie once played for Real Madrid—what's his name? .....
13. For years Sydney Croatia had a striker with the nickname of 'Frenchie'—what's his real name?.....
14. Heidelberg star Gary Cole was born in Australia—true ?.....
15. Adelaide City has the two Nyskohus brothers, John and Bugsy—what's Bugsy's real first name? .....
16. What was the previous name of Brisbane City? .....
17. Wollongong coach Ken Morton's previous club was interstate—which state? .....
18. West Germany's Paul Breitner a few years ago had a spell in Spain—with which club?.....
19. Tottenham's League and Cup winning team in the 1960s had a star who was killed by lightning on a golf course—what was his name? .....
20. In an Olympic Games match in 1964, a Hungarian player scored all six of his team's goals—his name? .....

Correct answers to last month's Dunlop Quiz: 1. Dr. Henry Seamonds. 2. Joe Marston. 3. SV Hamburg. 4. Alexander. 5. Mexico. 6. Everton. 7. Johan Cruyff. 8. Hungary. 9. Dom Kapetanovic. 10. None. 11. Don Revie. 12. Meazza. 13. 1948. 14. Ice hockey. 15. True. 16. Tennis. 17. Just Fontaine. 18. Argentina. 19. False. 20. No.

Last month's winner: F. Scicluna, 52 Turosby St., Fairfield, 2165, with 17 points. His prize will be forwarded directly by Dunlop Footwear.

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Yes, we still accept bookings for the World Cup Finals in June and July! The deadline, however, is fast approaching; after that 'Mundiespana' of the Organising Committee in Madrid will refuse all applications. So hurry and avoid disappointment later!

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